



Calculation of Bubble Detector Response Using Data from the Matroshka-R Study

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Agence spatiale canadienne



Canada



Motivation

- In 2009, WRMISS asked Canadian Space Agency to prepare an overview paper on Bubble Detector Technology which would:
 - Highlight all the work and previous publications on Bubble Detector technology
 - Summarize data on Bubble Detector response to neutrons, protons, and HZE particles.



OUTLINE



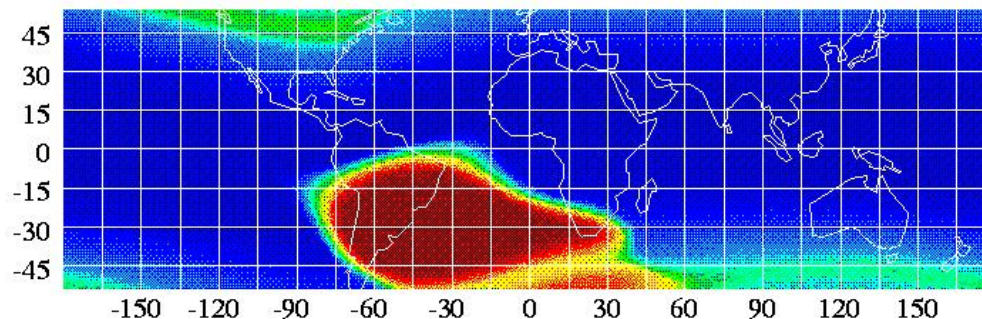
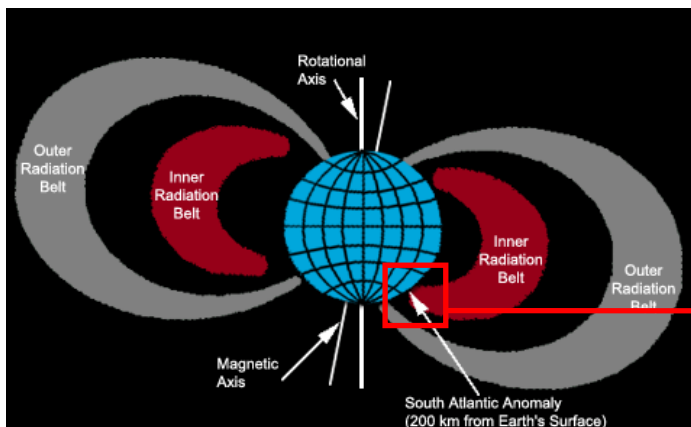
- Introduction
- Bubble Detector Characterization Studies
- Mission Applications
 - Russian Matroshka-R
 - Session 8 : Proton and Neutron Studies
 - Session 7 : Heavy Ion Studies
- Contributions of Protons, Neutrons, and Heavy Ions to Bubble Count
- Conclusions



Introduction

Neutron Dosimetry in Space

Bubble Detector



*NASA, ROSAT Guest Observer Facility, 2002 (http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/rosat/gallery/misc_saad.html)

- There exists a complex particle and neutron field in space.
 - Albedo neutrons from Earth's atmosphere and secondary production from spacecraft shielding contributes ~10-30% of total dose equivalent.
 - TEPC reliable doses <20 MeV (response to higher energies?)
 - CR-39 passive dosimeters complement TEPC (and TLDs)

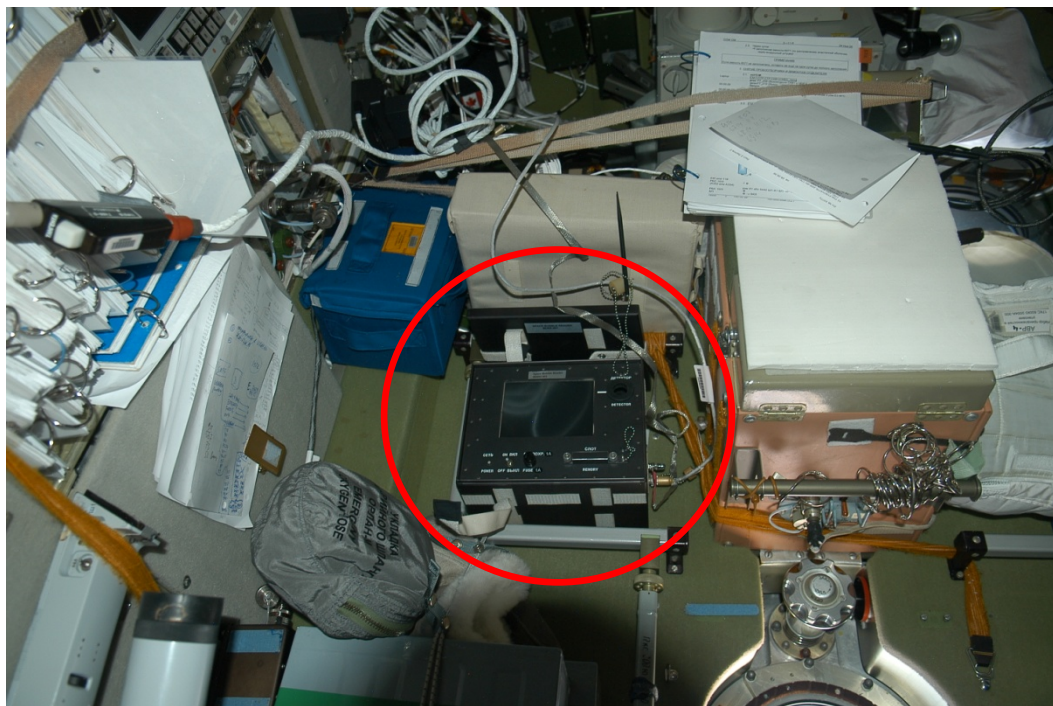


- Space bubble detectors (SBD's)
 - Used in space applications since 1989, including Russian Matroshka-R (2006,-2008)
 - Test-tube-shaped neutron dosimeter developed by Bubble Technology Industries Inc. (BTI)
 - Microscopic liquid droplets form bubbles of trapped gas upon contact with neutrons.
 - Number of bubbles can be auto-counted using a reader and is indicative of the neutron radiation field intensity.





Bubble reader aboard the ISS Russian Segment



Source: Bubble Technology Industries http://www.bubbletech.ca/radiation_detectors_files/bdr.html



- **Neutrons**

- Defence Research and Development Canada – Ottawa (DRDC-O) [1980's]
- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) [1990]
 - Thermal Neutrons (144 keV)
- National Physical Laboratory (NPL) Van de Graff Accelerator [1990]
 - ${}^7\text{Li}(p,n) \rightarrow 0.033$ to 0.627 MeV
 - $\text{T}(p,n) \rightarrow 0.214$ to 2.22 MeV
 - $\text{D}(d,n) \rightarrow 2.03$ to 5.26 MeV
 - $\text{T}(d,n) \rightarrow 13$ to 18 MeV
- CERN/European Commission High Energy Reference Field (CERF) [2002]
 - Simulated space spectrum
 - Integral neutron field
- iThemba [2007]
 - High energy neutrons (100 and 200 MeV)



- **Protons**
 - Tri-University Meson Facility (TRIUMF) [2003]
 - 81.7 MeV (as protons entered experimental apparatus)
 - 77 MeV (as protons entered the detector)
 - National Institute of Radiological Sciences (NIRS) [2004]
 - 35, 50 and 70 MeV
- **Heavy Ions**
 - Heavy Ion Medical Accelerator in Chiba (HIMAC) [2006]
 - Irradiated with N, Kr and Ar ions at 180, 400, and 500 MeV/u respectively.



Matroshka-R Experiments

- Performed over a series of experimental sessions
 - ISS-13 (Sessions 1 & 2) [2006]
 - ISS-14 (Sessions 3 and 4) [2007]
 - ISS-15 (Sessions 5, 6 and 7) [2007/2008]
 - ISS-16 (Sessions 8 and 9) [2008]
- Experiments performed using a spherical phantom with detectors placed on inside and outside of sphere.





- **Session 7 (ISS-15) : phantom placed in the Russian docking module**
 - B01, B02, B03 placed on surface of phantom
 - B04 located behind the phantom on outer wall of the cabin
 - B05, B06 located on internal wall of cabin
- **Session 8 (ISS-16) : phantom place in the Russian PIRS module**
 - B01, B02, B03 gelled to the surface of phantom
 - B04 located in the service module (SM) starboard cabin
 - B06, B07 were located in the SM, close to the astronaut working desk
 - B08 located in the SM (on the ceiling by the R16 radiometer)

**Matroshka-R Results for Session 7**

| Detector Label | B01 | B02 | B03 | B04 | B05 | B06 |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Sensitivity (bubble/μSv) | 0.123 | 0.117 | 0.111 | 0.111 | 0.099 | 0.093 |
| Exposure Time (s) | 6.09E+05 | 6.09E+05 | 6.08E+05 | 6.08E+05 | 6.09E+05 | 6.09E+05 |
| Number of bubbles | 99 | 98 | 94 | 106 | 104 | 71 |
| Dose (μSv) | 803 | 838 | 845 | 951 | 993 | 697 |
| Dose Rate (μSv/day) | 114 | 119 | 120 | 135 | 141 | 99 |

Maschrafi et al., Neutron Dose Study With Bubble Detectors Aboard the International Space Station as part of the Matroshka-R Experiment, Radiation Protection Dosimetry, Advance Access Publication, Vol. 133, No. 4, pp. 200-207, 2009

Matroshka-R Results for Session 8

| Detector Label | B01 | B02 | B03 | B04 | B06 | B07 | B08 |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Sensitivity (bubble/μSv) | 0.123 | 0.117 | 0.111 | 0.111 | 0.099 | 0.093 | 0.086 |
| Exposure Time (s) | 4.47E+05 | 4.47E+05 | 4.47E+05 | 4.47E+05 | 4.47E+05 | 4.47E+05 | 4.47E+05 |
| Number of bubbles | 72 | 71 | 64 | 105 | 73 | 71 | 48 |
| Dose (μSv) | 585 | 605 | 574 | 947 | 740 | 766 | 554 |
| Dose Rate (μSv/day) | 113 | 117 | 111 | 183 | 143 | 148 | 107 |

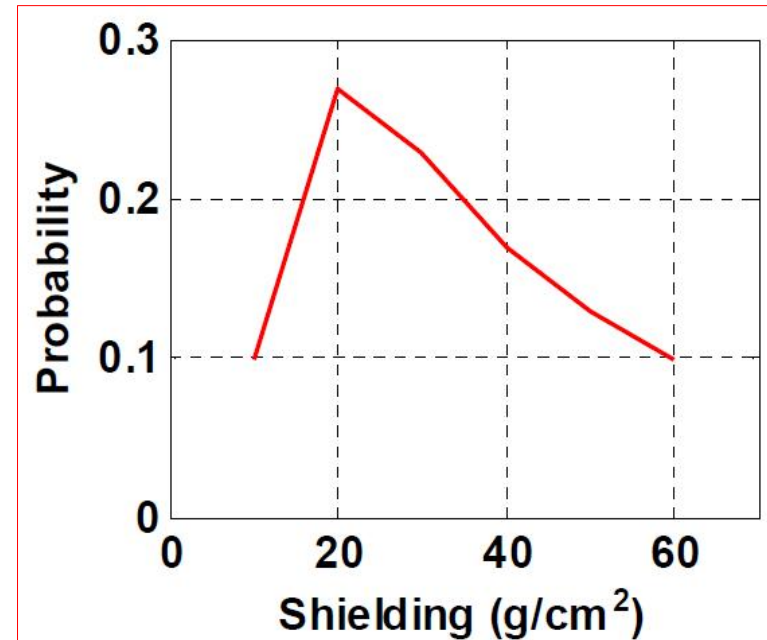
Internal Report: Bubble Technology Industries Inc. (2009). *Matroshka-R Experiment Phase 2*. Chalk River, ON, Canada: Bubble Technology Industries Inc.



Analysis

- Particle flux estimate (CREME96 with shielding function)
- Differential flux: neutrons, protons and heavy ions (He, N, O and Ar)
- Integrated differential flux:
 - Neutrons (0.25 – 100 MeV) $\rightarrow 1.70 \times 10^5$ neutrons/cm²/s
 - Protons (10 MeV – 100 GeV) $\rightarrow 6.3 \times 10^5$ protons/cm²/s
- Detector sensitivity S_d (bubbles/ μ Sv)
- Particle sensitivity $S_{p,n}$ (b/(particle/cm²)/(b/ μ Sv))
- Experiment duration, t (s)
- 4π particle incidence

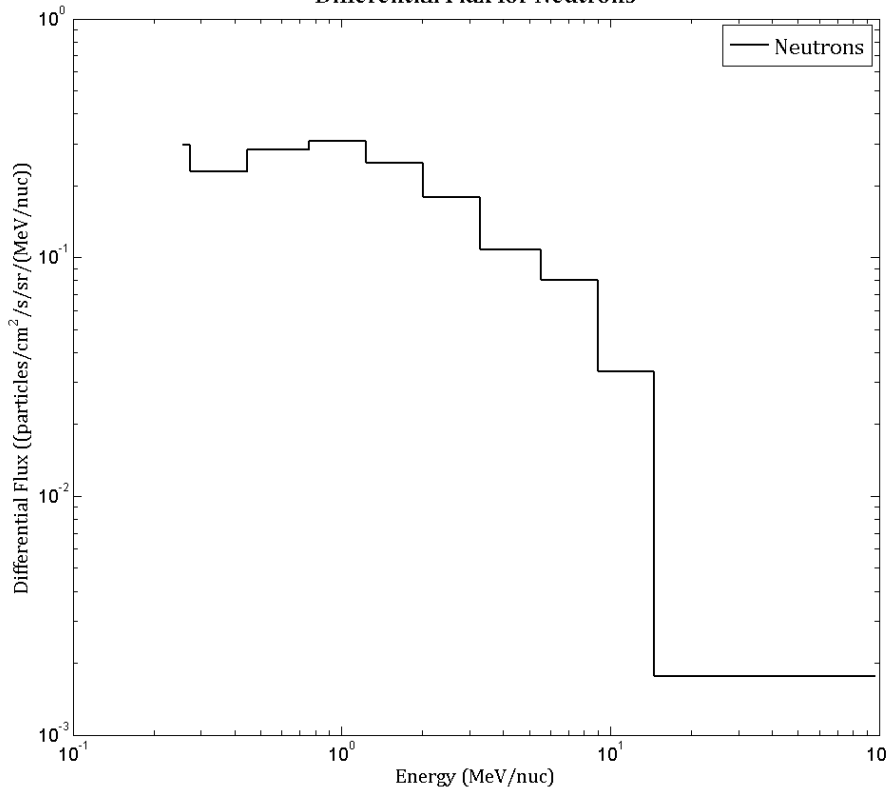
Shielding Function



*Bubble Technology Industries, Matroshka-R Experiment
Phase 2 - FINAL REPORT, August 10, 2010

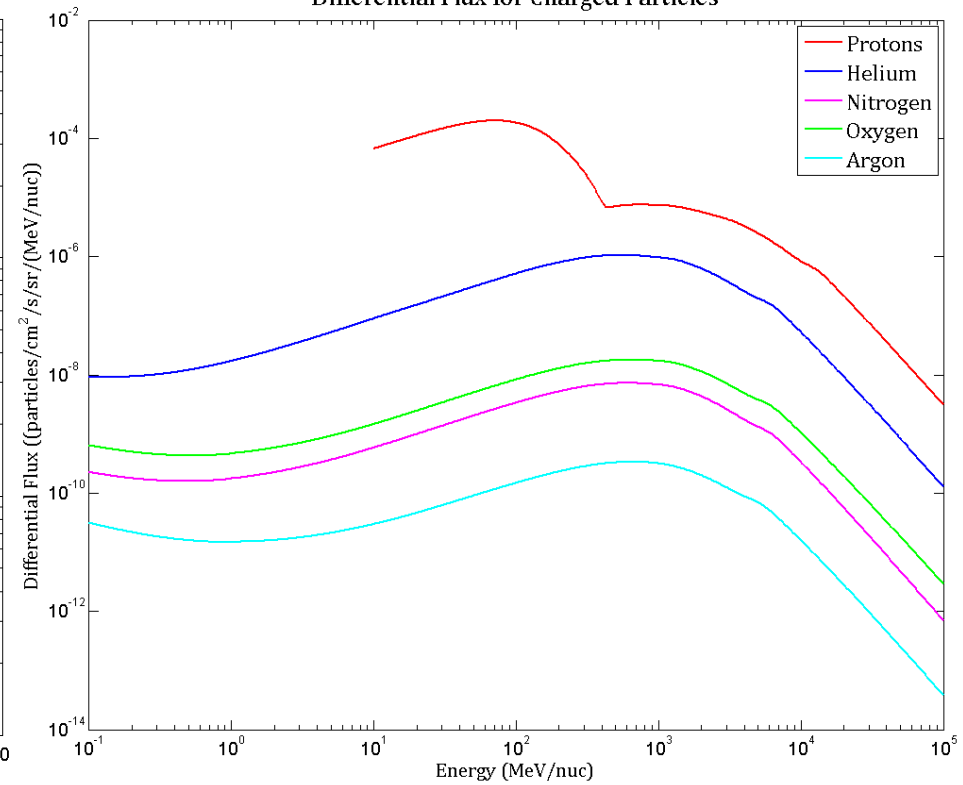
Neutron and Charged Particle Spectra $\phi_{n,p}(E)$

Differential Flux for Neutrons



*Koshiishi et al, *Evaluation of the Neutron Radiation Environment Inside the International Space Station Based on Bonner Ball Neutron Detector Experiment*, Radiation Measurements, 2007, 1510-1520

Differential Flux for Charged Particles



*Charged particle differential flux from CREME96

Calculation Methodology

- Rate of bubble formation for protons (bubble/s)

$$\dot{N}_b = 4\pi S_d \int_{E_{lower}}^{E_{upper}} \varphi_p(E) S_p(E) dE \sim 4\pi S_d \sum_{10 \text{ MeV}}^{100 \text{ GeV}} \varphi(E) S_p(E) \Delta E$$

- Proton sensitivity (energy independent): $S_p = 5.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ b}/(\text{p}/\text{cm}^2)/(\text{b}/\mu\text{Sv})^*$
- Lower energy limit of 10 MeV (Proton penetration through detector shell)

*H. Ing and A. Mortimer, Advances in Space Research (1993)

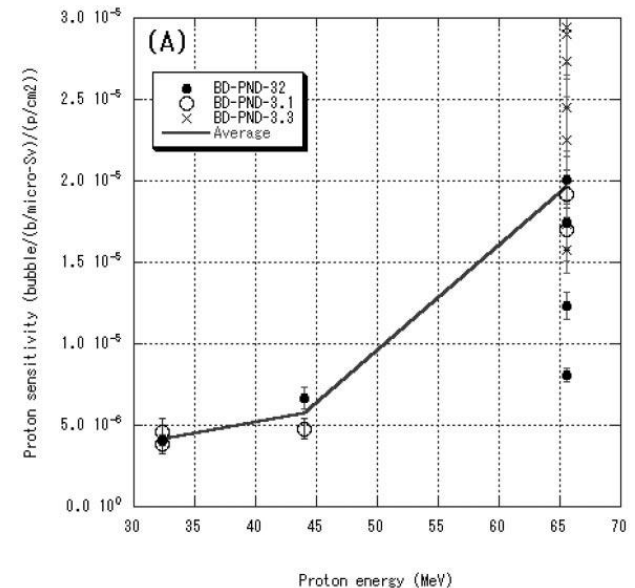
Calculation Methodology

- Protons contribute <1% to overall bubble count:

| $4\pi S_p \Sigma [\phi_p(E)\Delta E]$ (b/(b/ μ Sv)/s) | Detector Label | S_d (b/ μ Sv) | N_p (bubbles/s) | Time (s) | N (bubbles from protons) | # of bubbles determined from BTI Report | Proton Contribution % | |
|--|----------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------|
| 4.49E-06 | B01 | 0.123 | 5.52E-07 | 4.47E+05 | 0.25 | 72 | 0.34 | |
| 4.49E-06 | B02 | 0.117 | 5.25E-07 | 4.47E+05 | 0.23 | 71 | 0.33 | |
| 4.49E-06 | B03 | 0.111 | 4.98E-07 | 4.47E+05 | 0.22 | 64 | 0.35 | |
| 4.49E-06 | B04 | 0.111 | 4.98E-07 | 4.47E+05 | 0.22 | 105 | 0.21 | |
| 4.49E-06 | B06 | 0.099 | 4.44E-07 | 4.47E+05 | 0.20 | 73 | 0.27 | |
| 4.49E-06 | B07 | 0.093 | 4.17E-07 | 4.47E+05 | 0.19 | 71 | 0.26 | |
| 4.49E-06 | B08 | 0.086 | 3.86E-07 | 4.47E+05 | 0.17 | 48 | 0.36 | |
| | | | | | Mean: | 0.21 | 72 | 0.30 |

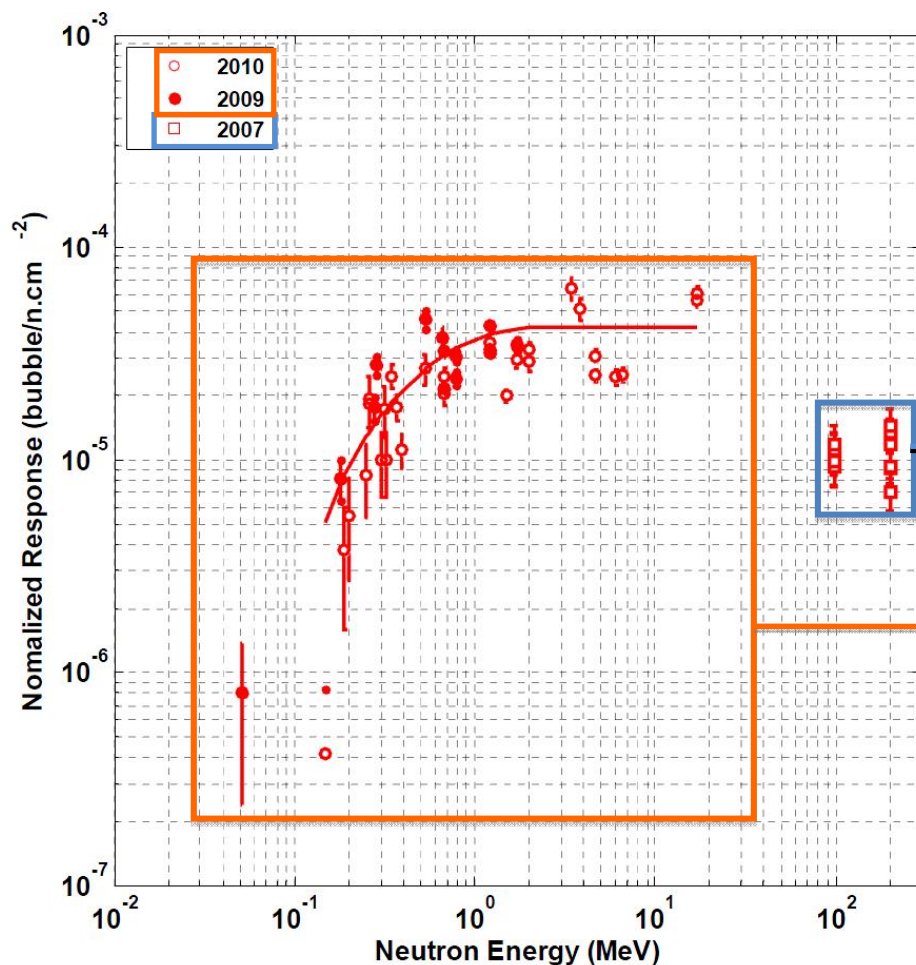
Comparable results of ~1% using Takada response function for S_p^*

*Takada et al, *Measured Proton Sensitivities of Bubble Detectors*, Radiation Protection Dosimetry, Vol. 111 (2), 181-189)





Neutron Response Function ($S_n(E)$)



High energy neutron sensitivities data collected at iThemba during experiments in 2007

Values averaged based on results of calibrations performed for the Radi-N study in 2009 and 2010

*Bubble Technology Industries, Report on Characterization of the Space Bubble Detector Spectrometer, March 31st 2010 (Detector sensitivity of 0.1 bubble μSv^{-1})

Predicted Versus Measured Bubble Count for Neutrons (Matroshka-R Session 8)

$$\dot{N}_b = 4\pi S_d \int_{E_{lower}}^{E_{upper}} \varphi_n(E) S_n(E) dE \sim 4\pi S_d \sum_{0.25 \text{ MeV}}^{100 \text{ MeV}} \varphi_n(E) S_n(E) \Delta E$$

| $4\pi \Sigma [\varphi_n(E) * S_n(E) * \Delta E]$ (b/(b/μSv)/s) | Detector Label | Detector Sensitivity S_d (b/μSv) | | # of Bubbles/s | Time Elapsed (s) | | Total # of Bubbles due to Neutrons | Bubble Count during Matroshka-R | Measured Value/ Predicted Value |
|---|----------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------|------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 7.57E-04 | B01 | 0.123 | / | 9.31E-05 | 447000 | / | 42 | 72 | 1.73 |
| 7.57E-04 | B02 | 0.117 | / | 8.86E-05 | 447000 | / | 40 | 71 | 1.79 |
| 7.57E-04 | B03 | 0.111 | / | 8.41E-05 | 447000 | / | 38 | 64 | 1.70 |
| 7.57E-04 | B04 | 0.111 | / | 8.41E-05 | 447000 | / | 38 | 105 | 2.79 |
| 7.57E-04 | B06 | 0.099 | / | 7.50E-05 | 447000 | / | 34 | 73 | 2.18 |
| 7.57E-04 | B07 | 0.093 | / | 7.04E-05 | 447000 | / | 31 | 71 | 2.26 |
| 7.57E-04 | B08 | 0.086 | / | 6.51E-05 | 447000 | / | 29 | 48 | 1.65 |
| | Mean: | 0.106 | | | | Mean: | 36 | 72 | 2.01 |

- Reasonable agreement of number of bubbles predicted using neutron differential spectra from Koshiishi et al. with Matroshka measurement (factor of ~ 2).



Heavy Ion Contributions

- Calculations for Linear Energy Transfer (LET)

- $P_{bf}(x) = 1 - e^{(-n\sigma x)}$

- $n = \#$ of droplets per cm^3 (active volume of detector)
- $\sigma =$ cross section of droplet
- $x =$ critical distance the particle travels above threshold

- Considers minimum and maximum energy to enter and pass completely through detector

- Calculations for Nuclear Interaction

- $X + {}^{19}\text{F}$ interactions (scaled to $p + {}^{19}\text{F}$) to determine heavy ion sensitivities

- $\sigma_{pT} = \pi r_o ((A_p)^{1/3} + ((A_T)^{1/3} - b)^{1/2}$

- σ_{pT} is cross section for interaction of projectile (p) and target (T) nuclei
- $A_{p,T}$ is the mass number
- b is the overlap parameter $b = 1.56 - 0.2((A_p)^{1/3} + ((A_T)^{1/3})^2$

Heavy Ion Calculation : LET

- Heavy ions contribute $\sim 0.02\%$ to overall bubble count due effect of linear energy transfer (LET):

| Matroshka-R Results for Session 7 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Detector Label | B01 | B02 | B03 | B04 | B05 | B06 |
| Sensitivity (bubble/ μ Sv) | 0.123 | 0.117 | 0.111 | 0.111 | 0.099 | 0.093 |
| Exposure Time (s) | 6.09E+05 | 6.09E+05 | 6.08E+05 | 6.08E+05 | 6.09E+05 | 6.09E+05 |
| Number of bubbles | 99 | 98 | 94 | 106 | 104 | 71 |
| Dose (μ Sv) | 803 | 838 | 845 | 951 | 993 | 697 |
| Dose Rate (μ Sv/day) | 114 | 119 | 120 | 135 | 141 | 99 |

*Bubble Technology Industries, Matroshka-R Experiment Phase 2 - FINAL REPORT, March 31st 2009, Revised: August 10th 2010

Heavy Ion Contribution for Detector B01:

| Element | Ion Mass | Min Energy* (MeV) | Min Energy (MeV/nuc) | Max Energy** (MeV) | Max Energy (MeV/nuc) | Critical Distance (cm) | Bubble Formation Probability | $4\pi\Sigma$ of Integrated Flux (particles/cm ² /s) | Flux Ions (/s) | Bubbles due to Ions | Observed Bubbles | Bubbles due to Ions (%) |
|---------|----------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|--|----------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| He | 4 | 35 | 8.75 | 150 | 150 | 0.0035 | 1.88E-05 | 6.33E-05 | 3.37E-04 | 3.85E-03 | 99 | 0.00389 |
| N | 14 | 250 | 17.86 | 1000 | 71.43 | 0.121 | 6.50E-04 | 1.25E-06 | 6.66E-06 | 2.63E-03 | 99 | 0.00266 |
| O | 16 | 300 | 18.75 | 1300 | 81.25 | 0.181 | 9.72E-04 | 3.93E-06 | 2.09E-05 | 1.24E-02 | 99 | 0.01249 |
| Ar | 40 | 1100 | 27.5 | 5000 | 125 | 0.859 | 4.60E-03 | 1.52E-07 | 8.10E-07 | 2.27E-03 | 99 | 0.00229 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | Sum: | 0.02133 |

*Energy required to enter the detector

**Energy required to travel at least the length of the detector



Heavy Ion Calculation : Nuclear Interaction

- Heavy ions contribute $\sim 0.03\%$ to overall bubble count due effect of nuclear interactions:

| Matroshka-R Results for Session 7 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Detector Label | B01 | B02 | B03 | B04 | B05 | B06 |
| Sensitivity (bubble/ μ Sv) | 0.123 | 0.117 | 0.111 | 0.111 | 0.099 | 0.093 |
| Exposure Time (s) | 6.09E+05 | 6.09E+05 | 6.08E+05 | 6.08E+05 | 6.09E+05 | 6.09E+05 |
| Number of bubbles | 99 | 98 | 94 | 106 | 104 | 71 |
| Dose (μ Sv) | 803 | 838 | 845 | 951 | 993 | 697 |
| Dose Rate (μ Sv/day) | 114 | 119 | 120 | 135 | 141 | 99 |

*Bubble Technology Industries, Matroshka-R Experiment Phase 2 -
FINAL REPORT, March 31st 2009, Revised: August 10th 2010

Heavy Ion Contribution for Detector B01:

| Element | Σ of Integrated Flux (particles/cm ² /s) | Ion Sensitivity (bubble/(bubble/ μ Sv)(particle/cm ²)) | Sensitivity to Neutrons (bubble/ μ Sv) | Bubbles due to Ions (/s) | Measurement Time (s) | Bubbles due to Ions | Observed Bubbles | Nuclear Interaction Contribution to Bubble Count (%) |
|---------|--|--|--|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| He | 4.55E-02 | 8.66E-06 | 0.123 | 4.84E-08 | 6.09E+05 | 0.0295 | 99 | 0.02978 |
| N | 3.07E-04 | 1.63E-05 | 0.123 | 6.17E-10 | 6.09E+05 | 0.0004 | 99 | 0.00038 |
| O | 8.36E-04 | 1.76E-05 | 0.123 | 1.81E-09 | 6.09E+05 | 0.0011 | 99 | 0.00111 |
| Ar | 1.45E-05 | 3.10E-05 | 0.123 | 5.52E-11 | 6.09E+05 | 0.0000 | 99 | 0.00003 |
| | | | | | | | Sum: | 0.03131 |



Summary

- The passive BD dosimeter developed in Canada has been used for neutron radiation monitoring in space since 1989
- During 2006-2008, BDs have been used in the Russian Matroshka-R study aboard International Space Station (ISS) during four expeditions (ISS-13, -14, -15 and -16).
- Using response data for neutrons, protons and heavy ions, based on comprehensive review of all literature bubble-detector data, along with differential-flux data calculated using the CREME code, calculations performed to determine contribution of charged particles to bubble formation
 - Charged particles have a negligible overall contribution to the bubble count (< 0.5%)



Key Points

- Protons below 10 MeV cannot penetrate the shell of the detector (SRIM Calculation)
- We have an isotropic flux in space (4π)
- We have come at the response function in two separate ways
 - We also folded in the response function measured at HIMAC by Takada
 - (differential flux derived with CREME96 with an appropriate shielding function (RUSSIAN) for charged particle spectrum + heavy ions)
- We used the same methodology for neutrons and simply substituted in a differential flux measured with Bonner Sphere balls measured by the Japanese and a response function extended to high energy based on 100 and 200 MeV measurements at iThemba (got factor of 2)